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LETTER DATED 11 MAY 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit a note dated 8 May 1993 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan addressed to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Azerbaijani Republic and the Republic of Georgia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a United Nations document.

(Signed) L. KAYUMOV

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Annex

NOTE DATED 8 MAY 1993 FROM THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN ADDRESSED TO THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE STATES MEMBERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES, THE AZERBAIJANI REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and regrets to inform them that a natural disaster occurred in various districts and cities of the Republic of Tajikistan during the night of 7/8 May 1993. Heavy torrential rain accompanied by thunderstorms, hail, a sharp rise in river levels, a drop in air temperature, mudslides, and gale-force winds gusting up to 25 metres per second caused damage to much of the nation's economic infrastructure and many residential buildings and social amenities. On the basis of preliminary information, the damage is estimated at over 7 billion rubles. More than 100 hectares of agricultural land suffered flooding, and over 3,000 homes were damaged.

The signs of the devastation left by the natural disaster are most visible in the city of Dushanbe and in the Kafirnikhon, Varzob, Shartuz and Lenin districts. In the capital of the Republic, the whole network of trolleybus routes has been put out of commission, and half of the power supply system has been knocked out. The parts of the city that were hardest hit are in the north and in the east, where mudslides from the surrounding hills buried streets and choked the sewage system. Preliminary estimates put the damage in the city of Dushanbe at approximately 500 million rubles.

The Rogun hydroelectric power station was flooded, creating an emergency situation at that installation.

There was a sharp drop in air temperature in the south of the Republic, and a significant portion of the territory of the Khatlon region was enveloped in haze.

At a time when the country's leaders are striving to normalize the political situation and restore an economy ravaged by civil war, the very scale of the natural disaster means that another period of hardship faces the people and Government of Tajikistan.

The leaders of the Republic have flown to the hardest hit districts. Emergency measures are being taken to eliminate the effects of the natural disaster.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan takes this opportunity to convey to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Azerbaijan and Georgia the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.